

FREED BY CHALITZA

WHY WIDOW BETSY RIKISH TRAVELED FROM RUSSIA TO AMERICA.

She Wanted to Marry Again, and Sought Permission in the Manner Ordained by Lawgiver Moses.

New York Sun.

In the little Jewish temple of Ohab Sholem, in Brooklyn, last Sunday, the unique religious ceremony of the chalitzah was performed for the first time in the memory of man.

The rite of chalitzah is founded on the Mosaic law, and is a relic of the old orthodox goes back to a time beyond existing records.

The brother can refuse to take the widow to wife, in which case her chalitzah, or freedom to marry whomever she pleases, is given to her.

The growth of governmental authority reached a point where it was prohibited, in almost all countries, the double marriage permitted by the Mosaic code.

Another difficulty which sometimes comes upon a childless widow who desires to marry is that of being compelled to wait for the younger brother to arrive at his majority, for until he has done so she cannot marry.

The growth of the Jewish community in America is such that the ceremony of chalitzah is becoming a thing of the past.

As soon as it became known that the ceremony of chalitzah was to be performed the whole colony became eager to attend.

When he was quite a young man and he had acted as the rabbi's assistant. The applicant for chalitzah was Betsy Rikish, who had come all the way from Russia to secure it from Hillel Silberstein, the only brother of her dead husband, Abraham Silberstein.

Hillel gained employment as a tailor and thought little of his brother in far-away Russia, except when he received word that he had a new responsibility.

Two months ago she arrived in Brooklyn, and she was met by her brother, who had a new responsibility. The widow remained in Mishnitz, however, until two months ago when she came to New York.

But gradually she had been forming an attachment for a wealthy railroad contractor, and she had decided that a trip to America would be necessary.

Never before have women on whom nature has laid too generous a burden of intellect and beauty, since some one told them there is a measure of relief to be found in a sort of one-syllable edition.

They have all got into the habit of trying to get out of the world by the assurance that half an hour daily of regular encephalic gymnastics in their bedrooms will be sufficient.

It is to the full-chained, large-grained ladies that this system has made the most strenuous appeal, and it is just after the fashion of the modern world.

For five minutes she lifts the upper half of her body until there is no breath left in her, and then she lies down, and she goes to bed, and she sleeps, and she wakes up, and she goes to bed, and she sleeps, and she wakes up.

Another detail of the preparations was a bucket of water, which had been provided in deference to a superstition which is held by many Hebrews in connection with the chalitzah ceremony.

When all was ready, the rabbi, who was five years older than any one present, arose, and read from the Talmud the portion relating to chalitzah.

TITLED ANARCHISTS

ENGLISHMEN AND RUSSIANS ENROLLED AS SOCIETY'S ENEMIES.

Princes and Peers Whose Names Occupy Prominent Places Among Socialists and Anarchists.

"Ex-Attache," in New York Tribune.

Although anarchy and socialism both aim at the equality of mankind, and at the destruction of everything in the shape of rank, titular distinctions and of the gradations of society, yet strangely enough a large number of noblemen, including princes, dukes, marquises, counts, English earls and barons, are to be found in the ranks of the anarchists.

In some instances it is merely vanity and a desire to attract public attention and to play a role; in others the anxiety to command the influence of what promises to develop into one of the powers of the land.

Then again, there are nobles whose socialistic and anarchistic opinions are the result of personal conviction and of the contemplation of the sufferings of their fellow-creatures, and who devote their riches as well as their lives to the furtherance of the cause.

It is to this latter class that the Russian Prince Victor Nakhichevsky belongs, who was compromised to such an extent in a nihilist conspiracy in 1887-Nihilism and anarchy are practically identical.

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Don't Fail to See "Pompeii!"

THE NEGRO IN ENGLAND.

What He May Expect There If He Gets Too Numerous.

London Daily Telegraph.

Will England take more kindly to the presence in her towns of large colonies of "colored folk" than the United States do at present? The steamship companies that cross the Atlantic have been conveying unprecedented numbers of Africans to these shores, and correspondents are doing a good deal of work in the way of making out the number of the dusky countenances and early looks to be seen in our public places.

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